

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2025-26: PGCert in Statistics and Epidemiology



Course facts

Mode of study	Part Time Only
Expected length	7 months

About the course

The Postgraduate Certificate in Statistics and Epidemiology is a part-time course that is open to Oxford staff only. The course will be taught alongside the MSc Global Health Science and Epidemiology and will consist of two modules.

Learning objectives and course structure

The course aims to provide intensive training in statistics and epidemiology to enable students to conduct and interpret research studies in important areas of population health.

Students will be able to apply these knowledge and skills to support population-based research, including statistical analyses of epidemiological data.

The course aims to promote advanced study of the challenges of global health and their potential solutions by in-depth study of a range of scientific disciplines, so that students may understand and integrate medical, epidemiological, social and economic aspects of ill-health. At the end of the course, students should have the knowledge and skills required to:

- describe and discuss the role and contribution of epidemiology to health;
- critically appraise, analyse and interpret epidemiological studies;
- select, devise and develop appropriate study designs for epidemiological research; and
- conduct appropriate statistical analyses of epidemiological and health-related data.

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of major issues in statistics and epidemiology as they apply to global health science.

The curriculum comprises two compulsory modules:

1. Principles of Epidemiology
2. Principles of Statistics

Pattern of learning

The modules in the PGCert course will be delivered in the form of a series of lectures, with accompanying practical or tutorial sessions involving obtaining and assessing relevant evidence, and applying the concepts and methods learned during the lectures. In addition, teaching is also delivered through seminars, student presentations, self-directed learning and independent study.

A typical week will include a mixture of lectures and practical sessions of approximately 9 hours of tutor-led, classroom-based activities in Michaelmas term and around five hours in Hilary term.

The PGCert in Statistics and Epidemiology is hosted by the Nuffield Department of Population Health. Teaching takes place in the Richard Doll Building at the Old Road Campus in Headington.

You will also have access to the weekly seminars held on the Old Road Campus and will be made aware of any other seminars taking place across the Medical Sciences Division. You will be welcome to attend the Medical Sciences Skills Training programmes if you wish.

Attendance

As a part-time student you will be required to attend classes, seminars and other obligations in Oxford for a minimum of 50 days each year. There will be no flexibility in the dates and pattern of attendance, which will be determined by the teaching team. Attendance will be required during term-time 3- 5 days each week on days determined by the teaching team. Attendance will be required outside of term-time 1-3 days each week on days determined by the teaching team.

Resources to support your study

As a graduate student, you will have access to the University's wide range of world-class resources including libraries, museums, galleries, digital resources and IT services.

The Bodleian Libraries is the largest library system in the UK. It includes the main Bodleian Library and libraries across Oxford, including major research libraries and faculty, department and institute libraries. Together, the Libraries hold more than 13 million printed items, provide access to e-journals, and contain outstanding special collections including rare books and manuscripts, classical papyri, maps, music, art and printed ephemera.

The University's IT Services is available to all students to support with core university IT systems and tools, as well as many other services and facilities. IT Services also offers a range of IT learning courses for students, to support with learning and research.

You will have access to the department's IT support services and the University's library services, such as the Radcliffe Science Library, the Cairns Library at the John Radcliffe Hospital and the Knowledge Centre based in the Old Road Campus Research Building.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Nuffield Department of Population Health and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Nuffield Department of Population Health.

Each student will be assigned an academic supervisor who will support them through the duration of the course.

Assessment

During the first term there are two formative assessments designed to enable teaching staff to monitor student progress. These assessments are compulsory but the marks do not contribute to the final outcome. All students are provided with detailed feedback that will enable them to improve their learning by helping them identify their strengths and weaknesses.

There are three summative assessments. During the second term, a data analysis and report (35%) is submitted. At the beginning of the third term there are two written examinations, one on the Principles of Statistics module (33%) and one on the Principles of Epidemiology module (32%) comprising multi-component questions.

Changes to this course

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after you commence your course. These might include significant changes made necessary by any pandemic, epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2025-26

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£4,850
Overseas	£10,880

Information about course fees

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

Each PG Cert student is expected to provide their own laptop, which is estimated to cost £600. No bursaries are available from the department for this, though we may provide a loan laptop if it is not possible for the student to provide their own.

Living costs

In addition to your course fees and any additional course-specific costs, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

If you are studying part-time your living costs may vary depending on your personal circumstances but you must still ensure that you will have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for the 2025-26 academic year are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

Likely living costs for one month

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£330	£515
Accommodation	£790	£955
Personal items	£200	£335
Social activities	£45	£100
Study costs	£40	£90
Other	£20	£40
Total	£1,425	£2,035

Likely living costs for nine months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£2,970	£4,635
Accommodation	£7,110	£8,595
Personal items	£1,800	£3,015
Social activities	£405	£900
Study costs	£360	£810
Other	£180	£360
Total	£12,825	£18,315

Likely living costs for twelve months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£3,960	£6,180
Accommodation	£9,480	£11,460
Personal items	£2,400	£4,020
Social activities	£540	£1,200
Study costs	£480	£1,080
Other	£240	£480
Total	£17,100	£24,420

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond the 2025-26 academic year, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of 4% each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.

Document accessibility

If you require a more accessible version of this document please contact Graduate Admissions and Recruitment by email (graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask/form>).

